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THE Lord Haverſham's SPEECH IN THE Houſe of PEERS,

On *Thurſday, November* 23*d*, 1704.

My LORDS,

I *A M* very ſenſible to what Cenſure he expoſes himſelf, who addreſſes your Lordſhips in ſuch a *Manner*, at ſuch a Time; but this being the only proper Place for me to mention what I have to offer of Complaint, I the more confidently hope your Lordſhips forgiveneſs.

I would be far from detracting or leſſening any *Man's juſt* Praiſe, and do really believe that the *wonderful Victory* obtained over the *French*, under the *Conduct* and Command of *Prince Eugen*, and the Duke of *Mrrlborough*, if conſider'd in all its Circumſtances, eſpecially the *unuſal Secrecy* with which the Orders were executed, is the greateſt any Hiſtory can ſhew us.

And tho' our Succeſs at Sea was not equal to what it was at Land, yet the *Engliſh* Courage and Bravery ſhew'd it ſelf the ſame. *I* cannot, indeed, Congratulate Sir *George Rook*'s *entire Victory over the* French, but *I* can, and do moſt heartily, his *Safe Deliverance from them*, and that, with a Fleet *ſo unprovided*, and *ſo weaken'd* by *five or ſix Dutch* Ships being called home a little before the Engagement, ſeems to me a *conſiderable* piece of Service. To ſay more, would look like Flattery; and to ſay leſs, would be Unjuſt.

My LORDS,

The Navy of ENGLAND *is its Glory and its Guard*, ; *'tis that which ſhould Protect our Trade, and Secure our coaſts. Your Lordſhips were ſo ſenſible of this, that you recommended theſe two Heads to her Majeſty, in two Addreſſes laſt Seſſions, full of Reſpect, and yet very preſſing; but we have been ſo far from receiving the Fruits we expected from your Lordſhip's Care, that whoever will but take a View of what was done laſt Summer, will ſee our Coaſts left naked, and our Trade expoſed, St. Paul riding in the Channel, and our Merchants ſo far from being Protected, that even our Men of War themſelves are taken in our Soundings. And what ſharpens our Misfortunes, is, to ſee our Enemies making uſe of our own Ships againſt us, and to be provided with their very Naval Stores from us, as the Count de Tholouſe's Squadron was, if an Eye witneſs thereof, now at the Door, may be believed.*

My LORDS,

Let our Victories be what they will aſhore, while France is thus Powerful at Sea, and more ſo daily, not only by his new Additions, but by 'Our too eaſie Conceſſions, as were thoſe of St. Chriſtophers, Newfoudland, and Hudſon's-Bay; while our Trade is thus neglected, and your Lordſhips faithful and provident Advice baffled by the 'Dark Counſels of No Body knows who: England, in my Opinion, can never be Safe.

Another Thing that I ſhall take notice of, is, the Preſent State of the Coin; and I dare venture to ſay, That if ſuch vaſt Exportations be much longer continued and allowed, we ſhall have very little left at home;

France may be beaten, but England must be beggar'd. I know we are not so sensible of this, because there is a Paper-Money now Current; but should there ever happen to be a stop there, I pray God preserve us from sinking all at once.

The last thing *I* shall mention to your Lordships is with Relation to *Scotland: I* think *I* need but lay before your Lordships the true matter of fact to convince you how much it deserves your *Consideration* A little before the last *sitting* down of the Parliament there, it was thought necessary to make some alteration in that *Ministry*, and accordingly some were displaced to make room for others, taking some from each Party, who might influence the rest: Things being thus prepared, and a *motly Ministry* set up, the Parliament met about the 6th of *July* last; and tho' the Succession to the Crown in the Protestant Line was the *main thing* recommended with the greatest Earnestness by the Queen in her Letter to them, yet was it so postpon'd and baffled, that at length it came to nothing, partly because the Ministry was so weak and divided, that instead of doing every thing they could do nothing; and partly from a received Opinion that the Succession it self was never Sincerely and Cordially intended, *either by the Ministry there, or by those that managed the* Scoth *Affairs here.*

This is Evident; for at the very opening of the Session, My Lord Secretary himself distinguishes between a Secret and revealed Will. And not only that, but upon the 4th Sederunt (as they call it) a motion was made for a Bill of Exclusion; *I* take it formally to be so, tho' it bears the Title of an Act of Security, which was read the first time on the Seventh, and ordered to lye on the Table till they heard from England; and on the Tenth it past into a Law. Now can any reasonable man believe that those who promoted a Bill of Exclusion there, or those who here advised the passing of it, could ever be really and cordially for the English Succession. *I* know there is an Exception in the Act of it self,

but 'tis such an one as might have full as well been left out; for he that asks what he knows before will never be granted, asks the Denial: And yet this is not all, but in this very Bill of Exclusion, as *I* call it, all the Heritors and Boroughs are not only allowed, but Ordained (as the word is) to be Armed, and to Exercise their Fenceable men once every month.

This being the Fact (and I think I have stated it very truly) surely, My Lords, it is what deserves your Consideration, and I shall make but one or two Observations to your Lordships. There are two Matters of all Troubles, much Discontent, and great Poverty, and who ever will now look into Scotland will find them both in that Kingdom. Tis certrin the Nobility and Gentry of Scotland are as Learned and as Brave as any Nation in Europe can boast of; and these are generally discontented.

And as to the common People, they are very numerous and very stout, but very poor: And who is that Man who can Answer what such a multituds, so Arm'd, so Disciplin'd, with such Leaders, may do, especially since Opportunities do so much alter men from themselves? And there will never be wanting all the Promises, and all the Assistance Franc can give.

Besides this, my *Lords*, *I* take it to be of the last Danger to *England*, that there *should be the least shadow or pretence of a Necssity to keep up Regular and standing Troops in this Kingdom in time of Peace*; for *I* shall always be of the same Opinion, '*Tiat what has been, may be.*

In short, My Lords, I think every man wishes these Thinge had not been; and in my Opinion, there is no man but must say they should not have been. I shall end with an Advice of my Lord Bacon's, *Let men, says he, beware how they neglect or suffer matters of Troubles to be prepared, for no man can forbid the Spark that may set all on Fire.*

If any thing I have said deserves it, your Lordships will take it into your Consideraeion; if not, I'm sure I ought to ask a thousand Pardons for so long Abuse of your Patience.

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